

III. Remarks

The allowance of claims 15-26 is acknowledged with appreciation.

Rejected claims 1-9 and 27-31 have been cancelled, and allowed dependent claim 10 has been amended to place it in independent form (by adding the limitations of claim 1), and therefore is in condition for allowance. Claims 12 and 14 have been amended to depend on claim 10, and claims 11 and 13, which depend from claim 10, have been maintained in their original form and therefore are also in condition for allowance.

Inasmuch as this eradicates all outstanding issues, an early formal notice of allowance of claims 10-26 is requested.

The examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

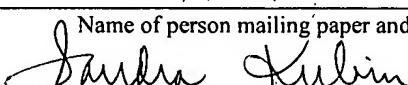
Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: 11/28/05

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